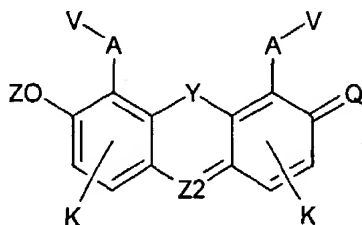


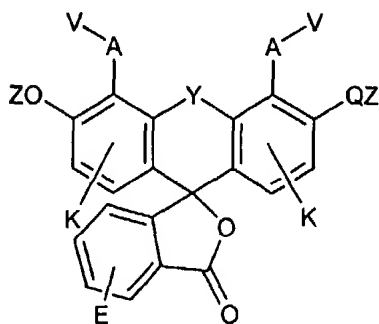
Do not enter.
11/30/04
MEC

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A fluorescein-based ligand, comprising a ligand having one of the following structures:

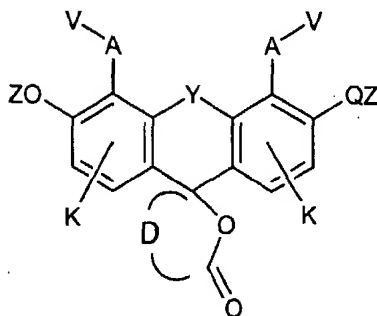


I



II

or



III

wherein, independently for each occurrence: